Rice Export from India

923. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the war-fears in the months of May-June, 2002 India's rice exporters had suffered a great deal;

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any efforts were made to improve the position; and

(d) if so, what is the latest position regarding exports of goods especially rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Printing of Maximum Retail Price

924. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stockists and retail sellers are swindling consumers by printing maximum retail price on the product packets as reported in India Today dated the 24th June, 2002; wherein one shopkeeper sold the same item for Rs. 2,200 and another for Rs. 500;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to fix the price of the products with cost basis; and

(c) what are the steps Government propose to safe guard the interest of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) the Standards of Weights & Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules 1977 require the declaration of the retail sale price